

REMARKS

This preliminary amendment is filed in order to facilitate processing in the above-identified application. In particular, the specification and abstract are amended to correct minor informalities. This application is filed in order to obtain allowance on claims restricted in the parent application.

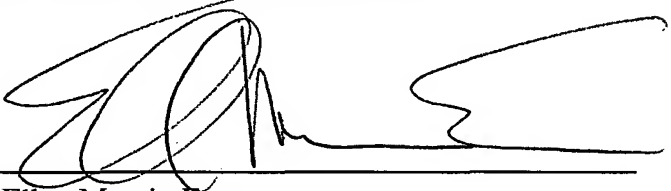
Thus, it now appears that the application is in condition for consideration and allowance. Consideration and allowance at an early date are respectfully requested.

If for any reason the Examiner feels that the application is not now in condition for allowance, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner contact, by telephone, the Applicants' undersigned attorney at the indicated telephone number to arrange for an interview to expedite the disposition of this case.

Respectfully submitted,

BURNS, DOANE, SWECKER & MATHIS, L.L.P.

By: _____


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